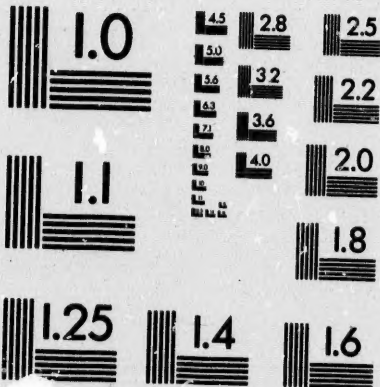


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CONSTITUTION

AND

L A W S

OF THE

HAMILTON LITERARY SOCIETY.

HAMILTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

JANUARY 31, 1897.

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CONSTITUTION
AND
L.A.W'S
OF THE
HAMILTON LITERARY SOCIETY.

I.

This Society shall consist of those persons who were present at the time of its formation, and of such others as shall appear by the Secretary's books to have been duly elected members thereof, according to the existing rules of the Society, and have not withdrawn or been expelled.

II.

The officers of this Society shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, to be elected annually, by ballot, on the first *Tuesday* in January.

III.

It shall be the duty of the President, and in his absence, of the Vice President, and in the absence of both, of one to be elected pro tempore, to preside at the meetings of the Society, keep order during debate, put to vote all motions regularly made and seconded, and give a casting vote whenever an equal division occurs.

IV.

The Secretary shall keep a record of all the proceed-

ings of the Society, and at the opening of each meeting shall read the minutes of the last meeting, and perform all other duties usually pertaining to that office.

V.

The Treasurer shall collect the annual and admission fees of members, shall enter in a book the names of the members, or other persons from whom he may have received any sum or sums of money, together with the amount, and shall render a correct account thereof to the Society, or to such person or persons as the Society shall appoint at the expiration of the year, or oftener if required.

VI.

The election of members shall be by ballot, and one third of black balls shall exclude from the Society.

VII.

Any person desirous of becoming a member of this Society shall have notice given to the following effect in writing, and read by a member at some meeting previous to the one at which he is to be balloted for:—

I hereby give notice that I shall at the next meeting of this Society propose Mr. A. B. (name in full) to be balloted for as a member.

The above notice to be signed by the proposer.

VIII.

Literary and distinguished characters may be admitted as Honorary members without being required to pay the fees of ordinary members.

IX.

Every person who shall be elected a member of this Society shall pay into the Treasury thereof an admission fee of five shillings.

X.

Every member of this Society shall annually pay into the Treasury thereof on or before the first day of January, a fee of ten shillings, if at that time a member of six months standing ; if elected within that period and for more than three months, the sum of five shillings.

XI.

Any member neglecting or refusing to pay his fee for twenty one days after it shall become due, having been notified thereof by the Secretary or Treasurer, shall cease to be a member of the Society.

XII.

There shall be annually elected from among the members of this Society three Auditors, two of whom at least shall be required to examine, approve and sign all accounts against the Society, after which they shall be paid by the Treasurer out of the funds of the Society ; and they shall also be required to inspect and sign the Treasurer's accounts before being submitted to the Society at the expiration of his office.

XIII.

Whatever funds shall be remaining in the hands of the Treasurer, after the necessary expences of the Society shall have been defrayed, shall be expended in the purchase of books, or otherwise, as may be deemed expedient.

XIV.

At any meeting of the Society four members shall be necessary to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

XV.

Any member may withdraw from the Society by stating his desire to do so in writing to the Secretary, who shall thereupon make a minute of the same in his book.

XVI.

Any member who shall be guilty of misconduct may be expelled from the Society after he shall have had sufficient time for apologising for his conduct and refuses so to do.

XVII.

Any officer may resign after having given notice to the Society in writing at a meeting previous to his resignation.

XVIII.

The Society may debate any subject except such as would in its discussion involve religious controversy.

XIX.

Every subject of debate shall be appointed at a meeting previous to the one at which it is to be discussed.

XX.

The proposer, and in his absence the seconder of the subject, and in the absence of both, some member to be named by the Chairman shall open the debate, and after all the members desirous of speaking shall have spoken

once, the Chairman may give permission for replies ; but no member shall be allowed to speak oftener than twice on the same subject, unless in explanation, except the person that opens the debate, who shall have the privilege of summing up the arguments and closing it. Nor shall any member be allowed to speak longer at one time than quarter of an hour.

XXI.

Original Essays composed by members may be read before the Society from time to time, as they may be prepared; copies of which shall be furnished to the Secretary, and by him regularly filed.

XXII.

All motions and resolutions brought into the Society shall be made in writing, and handed to the Chairman.

XXIII.

Questions of order shall be decided by the Chairman, from whose decision an appeal may be made to the Society.

XXIV.

All motions for amending or enlarging, or in any way affecting this Constitution, must be given to the Secretary in writing, and read at a meeting previous to their being discussed or put to vote.

XXV.

The business of the Society shall be proceeded in, in the following order:—

1st. The Society shall meet, until further arrangements, at 7 o'clock P. M. of every Tuesday.

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Monday

2nd. As soon as there shall be a quorum the President shall take the Chair.

3rd. The minutes of the last meeting.

4th. Presentation of Essays.

5th. The discussion of the subject.

6th. The transaction of miscellaneous business.

7th. ~~Notice for members.~~

8th. The appointment of a new subject.

9th. Shall adjourn.

Albion
to the
Litter

Hardy

Legg

Robinson

James

H. Kern

W. Kerke

Shattuck

Hogans

~~when in the city.~~

~~valued in Mr. Duggan's office~~